

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A stock number situation based on the stock number of articles owned by a retail shop 20 and the stock number of articles owned by a wholesale house is set, and information corresponding to the order content and the stock number situation is displayed on a terminal 11 of an order source 10. The article allocation processing to the order accepted is carried out by investigating the stock number of articles owned by the retail shop and allocating the articles in stock if it is possible to allocate the articles in stock, or requesting the allocation to the wholesale house if it is impossible to allocate the articles in stock. Accordingly, the stock risk of the retail shop can be reduced, and the loss of sale opportunities due to out of stock can be reduced.